Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 02326 301447Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /020 W

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R 301415Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6956

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 2326

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION ANKARA ON 30 MAR REPEATED FOR YOUR

INFO

QUOTE

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E.O.11652: N/A

SUBJECT: EXHIBIT REFLECTIONS

1. AS PART OF OUR CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF REFLECTIONS EXHIBIT, FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL NEGATIVE ELEMENTS HAVE EMERGED:

A. FRIDAY NIGHT'S LECTURE BY WILLIS CONOVER AT RADIO-TELEVISION INSTITUTE, PART OF THE FINE ARTS ACADEMY, WAS BOYCOTTED BY STUDENTS. THIS INDICATES AN UNCHANGED PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE AMONG STUDENT PROTESTORS.

B. BOTH SUNDAY AND MONDAY NIGHTS, BOMBING INCIDENTS OCCURED IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS OF CITY. WHILE POLICE SO FAR HAVE NOT CURTAILED PROTECTION OF REFLECTIONS, THEY ARE STRETCHED THIN AND MIGHT BE FORCED TO DO SO IN FUTURE.

C. ELECTION CAMPAIGN RHETORIC HAS SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED AND TEMPERS ARE RISING. WHILE THERE IS NO OBVIOUS CONNECTION OF THIS WITH REFLECTIONS, THE EXHIBIT DOES PRESENT A POTENTIAL TARGET TO THOSE WHO WANT TO VENT WHATEVER AILS THEM. IN OUR VIEW, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 02326 301447Z

EXTREMIST ELEMENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO COME TO THE FORE THAN UNDER MORE NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

D. WHILE ATTENDANCE THIS SECOND WEEK IS RUNNING CLOSE TO 500 DAILY, WE FEEL THAT THE MAJOR PURPOSE OF EXHIBIT HAS BEEN LARGELY ACHIEVED.

2. FOR ABOVE REASONS, TO CONTINUE TO RUN EXHIBIT PAST END OF THIS WEEK WOULD ENTAIL RISKS WHICH ARE UNLIKELY TO BE OUTWEIGHED BY POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES. WHILE THIS IS CLOSE JUDGMENT WITH WHICH SOME MIGHT DIFFER, WE RELUCTANTLY CONCLUDE THAT EXHIBIT SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED AFTER FRIDAY, WHEN IT WILL HAVE RUN FOR RESPECTABLE FULL TWO WEEKS. IF THE EMBASSY CONCURS IN THIS JUDGMENT, WE WOULD STILL HAVE TO COMMUNICATE THIS WITH THE RECTOR TO WORK OUT DETAILS. IN ANY CASE, WE FACE CONSIDERABLE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS IN PHYSICALLY REMOVING AND SECURING EXHIBIT DURING THIS COMING WEEKEND.

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Message Attributes

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